

# **ABSTRACT**

## **Title**

Clinical Study Of Cutaneous Manifestations in HIV Positive Patients in Correlation with CD4 Count.

## **Background and objectives**

In HIV, mucocutaneous disorders are one of the common presenting features. Common diseases may present atypically or rare dermatoses may occur newly in the presence of HIV. Often, the mucocutaneous manifestations correlates with the CD4 count and may be used to assess the prognosis. Mucocutaneous manifestations in HIV may vary from region to region, even within the same country. Since many studies have not been conducted in our study area, it was decided to take up this study.

## **Methodology**

This was a descriptive study conducted from August 2015 to July 2016 at the Outpatient Department of Dermatology & Venereology, Coimbatore Medical College Hospital. Hundred HIV-positive patients with age > 18 years and having one or more mucocutaneous manifestations were included in the study.

CD4 count was recorded in all the patients. Other necessary investigations like biopsy, KOH mount and Tzanck smear were done in relevant cases. Patients were classified according to WHO clinical stages and immunological classification.

## **Results**

There were 100 patients with 143 dermatoses seen in the study. Male : female ratio was 2.6: 1. Most cases belonged to the age group of 31- 40 years. Nearly 49% of all cases were in WHO clinical stage 2. About 44% patients were in severe immunosuppression i.e CD4 count < 200 cells/ $\text{mm}^3$ . Candidiasis was the most common dermatosis seen in the study followed by herpes simplex virus infection, seborrheic dermatitis and dermatophytosis.

## **Conclusion**

HIV infection produces a wide array of mucocutaneous manifestations. This offers diagnostic clues pointing towards the early diagnosis of the disease. CD4 count is an useful tool governing the occurrence of certain dermatoses as well as treatment response.

## **Key words**

HIV; AIDS; mucocutaneous manifestations; CD4 count